Statement-II

Details of sanctioned estimated cost and total expenditure incurred for R&M schemes at thermal power stations

(Where the PLF is less than the National Average during 1986-87)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the SEB	Total cost of the R&M Schemes sanctioned.	Total expenditure incurred during the last 3 years (1984-85, 1985-86 & 1986-87) upto 31-3-1987.	Total expenditure incurred upto 30-6-1987
1	HSEB	6355.00	1810.02	1850.76
2	UPSEB	17955.11	5725.25	5863.39
3	MSEB	4525.05	1364.64	1404.35
4	BSEB	6726.00	1957.93	1996.57
5	OSEB	3615.50	827.47	1027.67
6	WBSEB	5773.00	1334.67	1336.44
7	DPL	2380.00	673.93	679.63
8	ASEB	810.00	622.88	622.88
	TOTAL:	48139.66	14316.79	14838.69

Bhopal Gas tragedy victims' cases

895. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the delay in the settlement of the three-year old Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster case in which hundreds of people were killed;

(b) whether Government have any proposals to deal with the dilatory tactics of the Union Carbide Company which is trying to protract the Court proceedings; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) After the Bhopal Gas Leakage Disaster, a complaint was filed by the Government of India on behalf of the victims in the U.S. Federal District Court, New York against Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) claiming compensation. On a motion moved by UCC, this complaint was dismissed on grounds of forum non-conveniences subject to Union Carbide consenting to three conditions namely (i) to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of India; (ii) to satisfy any judgement rendered against it by an Indian Court, and if applicable, upheld by an appellate court, where such judgement and affirmance comport with the minimal requirements of due processes; (iii) to be subject to discovery under the model of the United States Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

UCC after consenting to all the three conditions, subject to its right to appeal,

moved the U.S.. Court of Appeals for the Second Circut again the condition relation to discovery. The Appellate Court deleted the condition relating to satisfaction of judgement rendered against it by an Indian Court and modified the condition relating to discovery. The Government of India thereafter moved the U.S. Supreme Court by filing a writ of certiorari on 22nd May, 1987 seeking to reinstate the conditions imposed by the U.S. District Court. The writ petition is yet to be taken up by the United States Supreme Court. In the meanwhile a plaint was filed in September, 1986 against UCC in the Court of District Judge, Bhopal claiming compensation for the victims. The UCC had tried to stall the proceedings in the Court by filing interlocutory applications requesting for stay of proceedings on the ground of election of forum by Government of India which were vigorously opposed and the applications were dismissed by the District Judge. The proceedings of the case are in progress and the case is being pursued vigorously. Government has already moved an application for determination of liability of UCC as a legal issue.

Expert group on private sector particpation

896. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Group set up by Government to go into the question of opening up the power sector for private companies has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the suggestions/recommendations made by the Expert Group; and

(c) what is Government's reactions in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) A Working Group was set up to study the modalities of private sector participation in electric power generation. The Working Group has submitted its report which is being examined.

Supply of power generating sets by BHEL

897. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly half of Assam's 500 MW power generation capacity is lying idle because of serious trouble with some power generating sets supplied by BHEL for Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station;

(b) whether complaints about the power generating sets supplied by BHEL have been received from other State Governments also; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof stating the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Due to a variety of reasons like grid disturbances, inadequaces in operating staff, problem in equipment etc., the generation of power in the Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station has been below the desired level.

(b) No major complaints from the State Governments have been received Problems with regard to equipment are invariably sorted out directly beween Electricity Boards and BHEL.

(c) Does not arise.

Completion of Salal Hydro-Electric Project

898. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Salal Hydro-electric project of the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation Limited continues to suffer from serious drawbacks; and

(b) what remedial measures Government have taken to complete the project within the anticipated time?